

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA SENATE 64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY**

**Call to Order:** Chair Fred Thomas, on February 23, 2015 at 3:00 PM, in Room 317  
Capitol

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Sen. Fred Thomas, Chair (R)  
Sen. David Howard, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Mary Caferro (D) (arrived after roll call)  
Sen. Diane Sands (D) (arrived after roll call)  
Sen. Cary Smith (R)  
Sen. Nels Swandal (R)  
Sen. Jonathan Windy Boy (D) (arrived after roll call)

**Members Excused:** None

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Barbara Pietuch, Committee Secretary  
Alexis Sandru, Legislative Branch

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 366, 2/19/2015; SJ 14, 2/19/2015

Executive Action: SB 316 - DO PASS; SJ 14 - DO PASS; SB 366 - DO PASS

00:00:01 Chairman Thomas

00:00:30 Chairman Thomas turned the chair over to Vice Chair Howard.

**HEARING ON SJ 14**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:00 Sen. Fred Thomas (R), SD 44, opened the hearing on SJ 14, Resolution to support May as ALS Awareness Month and urge research.

00:01:58 Sen. Windy Boy entered the hearing.

00:02:06 Sen. Caferro entered the hearing.

00:02:14 Sen. Sands entered the hearing.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:04:31 Paul Tuss, representing himself

00:06:47 Pam Hillery, representing herself

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:09:40 Sen. Sands

00:10:09 Mr. Tuss, self

00:10:54 Sen. Thomas

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:12:20 Sen. Thomas

**HEARING ON SB 366**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:13:30 Sen. Mary Caferro (D), SD 41, opened the hearing on SB 366, Require CHIP coverage of autism spectrum disorder.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:15:14 Alicia Smith, representing herself

00:16:25 Matt Bugni, disabilities developmental services director, A.W.A.R.E., Inc.

00:18:16 Diane Black, behavioral analyst, representing herself

00:21:56 Jon Metropoulos, attorney, A.W.A.R.E, Inc.

00:22:56 Amanda Harrow, Montana Primary Care Association

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

00:24:25 Jo Thompson, bureau chief, Health Resources Division, Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:24:56 Sen. Swandal  
00:25:33 Ms. Thompson, DPHHS  
00:25:48 Sen. Swandal  
00:25:56 Ms. Thompson  
00:26:02 Sen. Sands  
00:26:19 Sen. Caferro  
00:26:29 Sen. Smith  
00:27:05 Sen. Caferro  
00:28:49 Sen. Smith  
00:28:55 Sen. Caferro  
00:29:14 Sen. Windy Boy  
00:29:39 Sen. Caferro  
00:30:14 Sen. Windy Boy  
00:30:18 Sen. Caferro

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:30:23 Sen. Caferro  
  
00:33:17 Vice Chair Howard turned the chair back over to Chairman Thomas.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 316**

00:35:08 **Motion:** Sen. Howard moved that **SB 316 DO PASS.**

**Discussion:**

00:35:34 Sen. Swandal  
00:36:10 Chairman Thomas  
00:36:48 Sen. Windy Boy  
00:37:01 Chairman Thomas  
00:38:24 Sen. Smith  
00:38:41 Chairman Thomas  
00:38:55 Sen. Windy Boy  
00:39:11 Chairman Thomas

00:39:30 **Vote:** Sen. Howard moved that **SB 316 DO PASS.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SJ 14**

00:39:53 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Thomas moved that **SJ 14 DO PASS**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 366**

00:40:20 **Motion:** Sen. Caferro moved that **SB 366 DO PASS**.

**Discussion:**

00:40:34 Sen. Caferro  
00:42:41 Chairman Thomas  
00:42:46 Sen. Caferro  
00:42:52 Sen. Smith  
00:43:11 Sen. Caferro  
00:43:32 Sen. Sands  
00:44:22 Sen. Swandal  
00:44:34 Sen. Windy Boy  
00:45:05 Sen. Howard  
00:45:30 Sen. Caferro  
00:46:02 Chairman Thomas

00:47:08 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Caferro moved that **SB 366 DO PASS**. Motion carried 6-1 by voice vote with Sen. C. Smith voting no.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 3:51 PM

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Barbara Pietuch, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([phs41aad.pdf](#))